

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/631,844

Examiner

Mazda Sabouri

Applicant(s)

OKUZAKO ET AL.

Art Unit

2617

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendments filed on 6/25/2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 3-51.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 6/25/2007 has been entered.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. **Claims 3-51** allowed.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
4. **Claims 3,4,6,28,43 and 50** recite a portable information processing apparatus comprising first and second movable parts that are mutually angularly displaceable, as is typically found in clamshell or flip phones. This feature is found in the Nagasawa reference (see Nagasawa, figures 1 and 2). The apparatus further comprises an inner operation section and an inner display section that is exposed when the apparatus is in the open condition. Nagasawa also teaches this feature (see Nagasawa, 8 and 10-14, figure 2B). The apparatus further comprises an outer operation section and outer display that is exposed when the apparatus is in the closed condition. This feature is also found in the Nagasawa reference (see Nagasawa, 4 and 5-7, figure 1B). The

apparatus further comprises a condition detector for detecting the closed or open condition of the apparatus. Nagasawa also teaches this feature (see Nagasawa, 27, figure 6).

5. **Claims 3,4 and 43** further recite an imaging section (a camera) provided in the exposed area of the apparatus during the closed condition. This feature is found in the Kawasaki reference (see Kawasaki, 22, figures 1C, 4B and 9 and paragraph 106). The imaging section takes an image in response to an input from one of the inner and outer operation section. Kawasaki also teaches this feature (see Kawasaki, paragraphs 106-110).

6. **Claims 3,4,6,28,43 and 50** further recite that the inner operation section is activated during the open condition and deactivated during the closed condition. The outer operation section is deactivated during the open section and activated during the closed condition. This feature is found in the Soini reference (see Soini, claims 11 and 13).

7. **Claims 3 and 43** is patentable over the prior art for reciting a controller for causing the inner display to display an image shot in response to an input from the inner operation section, and the outer display to display an image shot in response to an input from the outer operation section.

8. **Claim 4** is patentable over the prior art for reciting the image shot displayed on the inner display in response to an input from the inner operation section, and displayed on the outer display in response to an input from the outer operation section.

9. **Claim 6** is patentable over prior art for reciting the condition detector comprising a discrete contact section having two sets of discrete contacts in shape of comb teeth.
10. **Claims 28,43 and 50** is patentable over prior art for reciting an operation selector key for activating one of the inner and outer operation section and deactivating the other of the inner and outer operation section.
11. **All other claims** are dependent on claims 3,4,6,28,43 and 50 above.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mazda Sabouri whose telephone number is 571-272-8892. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9:00-5:30.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rafael Perez-Gutierrez can be reached on 571-272-7915. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Mazda Sabouri
Examiner
Art Unit 2617

MS


Rafael Perez-Gutierrez
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 2600
Art Unit 2617
10/1/07